the banks to strictly adhere to these directions in the meetings called to discuss customer service issue. Continuous monitoring has also been done by RBI in this regard.

Profitability of Indian Stocks

1059. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian stocks have emerged as the second best performers as compared to their peers in three other BRIC nations—Brazil, Russia and China, giving close to 20 per cent return in April, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to help India emerge as the number one?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) In April 2009, Indian stock market index *i.e.*, BSE Sensex was the second best performing index *vis-a-vis* indices of BRIC countries. The return by IBOV of Brazil was less than BSE Sensex but marginally higher than NSE index. China's stock market index (SHCOMP) was placed at the lowest position among the BRIC countries. However, indices of Russian stock market indices recorded higher returns than Indian indices during April 2009. The percentage returns of the major indices in April 2009 of the BRIC nations are given below.

Country/Index	Index Value		% Return
	31/3/2009	30/4/2009	
Brazil			
IBOV	40925.87	47289.53	15.55
Russia			
MICEX	772.93	920.53	19.07
CRTX	1101.83	1337.67	21.40
India			
BSE SENSEX	9708.5	11403.25	17.46
S&P CNX Nifty	3020.95	3473.95	15.00
China			
SHCOMP	2373.213	2477.569	4.40

Source : Bloomberg Financial Services

The Government does not try to manage or control the Stock Markets. These are left to market forces to decide. The Government has put in place systems and practices to promote a safe, transparent and efficient market and to protect market integrity. The systems instituted include advanced risk management mechanisms comprising on-line monitoring and surveillance,

various limits on positions, margin requirements, circuit filters, etc. Measures taken to broaden and deepen markets include: screen based trading system, dematerialization of securities, corporatization and demutualization of exchanges, settlement through clearing corporation, trading in derivatives, etc.

Loans sanctioned to SHGs

1060. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Self Help Groups (SHGs) which have been sanctioned loans by the banks during the last three years till April 2009, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the details of SHGs sanctioned loans in Uttar Pradesh, during last three years till April 2009, year-wise and district-wise;

(c) the rate of interest charged against these loans; and

(d) whether Government is considering to lower the interest rates on such loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The State-wise details, including that of Uttar Pradesh, of loans disbursed to Self Help Groups (SHGs) by banks during 2007-08 and 2008-09 (provisional figures) are given in the Statement. (*See* below). For the year 2006-07, banks have disbursed loans amounting to Rs. 6,570.39 crore to 1105749 SHGs. The Data Reporting System of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) did not maintain State-wise details for the year 2006-07.

(c) and (d) Banks, *viz*., Public Sector Banks, Cooperative Banks and Regional rural Banks are reportedly charging interest rates in the range of 9.5% to 14% on loans to SHGs, based on their cost of funds, transaction costs, provisioning for Non-Performing Assets [risk costs] and small margin. As of now, there is no proposal to further reduce these rates.

Statement

State-wise details of SHGs credit linked for three years
(2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09)

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	Region/State	2006-07**		2007-08		2008-09***	
		SHGs provided with bank loan	Bank Loan disbursed	SHGs Provided with bank loan	Bank Loan disbursed	SHGs provided with bank loan	Bank Loan disbursed during the year
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A	**Northern Region**						
1.	Himachal Pradesh			4297	4116.59	6366	5415.17